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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 018976-154

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )

Kunihito SETA et al. )

Application No.: 09/470,967 )

Filed: December 23, 1999 )

For: THERMOPLASTIC RESIN )  
INJECTION MOLDING MACHINE )

Group Art Unit: 1722

Examiner: D. Heckenberg, Jr.

Confirmation No.: 6834

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03 FC:1201  
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84.00 OP  
252.00 OP )

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: February 24, 2003

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment responds to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002

(Paper No. 16). Please amend the above-noted application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 36, 42, 48 and 54 and add new claims 60-73 as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A thermoplastic resin injection molding machine comprising:
- a plasticating unit for plasticating a thermoplastic resin,
- an injecting unit connected to the plasticating unit through a connecting passage, to inject the plasticated resin into a mold,

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